



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Bureau of Standards  
Washington, D.C. 20234

May 19, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR Dr. Richard W. Roberts  
Director

Through: Dr. E. Ambler  
Deputy Director

From: Edward L. Brady *E L B*  
Associate Director for  
Information Programs

✓ Jack L. Tech *JL*  
Optical Physics Division

Subject: Exchange Visits with the Soviet Union

The general picture that emerges as a result of a survey conducted among NBS staff members involved in cooperative activities with the USSR under several intergovernmental agreements is that (a) the program is a healthy one with an increasing pace of implementation, (b) the projects are largely regarded as having medium to very high priority, and (c) individual NBS project coordinators are generally able to fund the cooperation from other agency support or from their own section funds, except for certain visits that are still highly tentative and that may not be implemented.

The total cost of 14 projects currently agreed or foreseen (see attachment) is estimated to be \$40,500. This figure includes the cost of visits by 19 NBS staff members to the USSR and by 10 Soviets to NBS over roughly the next fiscal year. This sum can be broken down into the following categories:

Visits by NBS staff to USSR.	\$13,500
Visits by NBS staff supported by outside agencies.	12,000
Visits by Soviets to NBS, if on receiving side pays basis.	<u>3,500</u>
	Subtotal \$29,000
More or less agreed visits by NBS staff. <u>Cannot</u> be supported by own project funds.	4,000

For those visits by NBS staff members that are not yet agreed upon but that are considered mildly possible. Cannot be supported by own projects.

	<u>7,500</u>
Total	\$40,500

**\*DOC Waiver Letter In ERU File\***

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Since outside agencies are paying \$12,000 in support of NBS participation, the total cost to NBS for foreseen projects amounts to \$28,500. This figure should probably be raised by about 25% for planning purposes, in order to accommodate desirable activities that may be proposed later by new NBS or Soviet initiatives. This sum does not include such items as salaries that would be paid anyway.

There are two important items that are not included in the above figure. If NBS enters into a direct exchange relationship with the USSR Academy of Sciences, the cost of perhaps 10-15 man-months spent by NBS personnel in the USSR and a similar quota of Soviet personnel at NBS would have to be factored in. Assuming a receiving side pays basis, this would amount to roughly an additional \$20,000. (So far, 13 NBS staff members have expressed an interest in working for a short term at a Soviet institute.) Also, HUD has indicated a desire to involve NBS expertise in implementing the Agreement on Cooperation in the Fields of Housing and other Construction. It is to be expected, however, that HUD would provide most of the funding for such involvement, just as ERDA now does for NBS participation in the Energy Agreement.

As a ballpark figure, therefore, the total cost to NBS for its involvement in joint activities with the USSR will almost certainly not exceed \$50,000 per year.

Attachment

cc: A. O. McCoubrey  
H. S. Peiser  
B. W. Birmingham  
Executive Board

JLTech/dea/May 21, 1975  
Coordinated with Dr. Brady